

Web Accessibility at IU

UITs Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers

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Topics

- IU Web Accessibility Administrative Practice
- CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group
- Sakai Accessibility Working Group
- ATAC's Web Accessibility Evaluation Services
- Adaptive Technology Demo and Accessibility Discussion



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IU Web Accessibility Guidance

- Web Accessibility Committee, Margaret Londergan, Chairperson, is working to prepare a set of documents providing Web accessibility guidance to the IU community.
 - The Web Accessibility Committee is a subcommittee of the Web Standards Committee co-chaired by Rebecca Salreno and Craig Spanburg.
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IU Web Accessibility Guidance Rationale:

- Web content is a fundamental means of delivering information and services and is an integral part of the university mission of teaching, research and public service.
 - Indiana University is committed to making web content accessible to everyone including those with disabilities.
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IU Web Accessibility Guidance: Administrative Practice or Best Practice Document?

- Web Accessibility Committee is working to determine appropriate format for the documents.
 - Compliance will be voluntary through persuasion, education, provision of tools, training and web accessibility testing (all of which will be free).
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IU Web Accessibility Guidance

Scope:

- Will apply to all Web content created or maintained by or for academic, administrative, or auxiliary units of Indiana University.



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IU Web Accessibility Guidance Process:

- Links to the accessibility documents should appear on IU's highest level Web pages.
 - Include a method of contact (phone + email) for persons needing assistance accessing Web content and/or reporting issues.
 - Support Web content owners and developers with training and accessibility experts.
 - ATAC provides provisional alternate access.
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IU Web Accessibility Guidance Documents Consist of:

- IU Statement on Web Accessibility
 - Best Practice or Administrative Practice Statement documenting scope, rationale, procedures, definitions, related policies, responsible parties, etc.
 - Guidelines
 - Access to tools and lists of resources
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CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group

- The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) is a consortium of 12 world-class research institutions (the Big Ten universities plus the University of Chicago).
- About the CIC:
<http://www.cic.net/Home/AboutCIC.aspx>
- Sub Group of the CIC's IT Accessibility and Usability Peer Group





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CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group's Goal

- The goal of this working group is to develop a Web accessibility evaluation protocol for use in the development and evaluation of Web resources being developed and/or purchased by CIC Universities.



CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group Protocol Features

- Tests that will be part of the evaluation protocol will include both automated and manual testing techniques.
- Each test will cover: Necessary resources, applicability, required skills and knowledge, priority, time requirements.



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CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group Protocol Uses

- Used by Web developers to identify accessibility features / deficiencies in resources they are developing.
 - Used by Vendors to help them comply with university accessibility requirements.
 - Used in purchasing to evaluate and compare products
 - Share results among CIC Institutions.
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CIC Web Accessibility Evaluation Sub Group / Task Force

- Meets bi-weekly and is led by:
Jon Gunderson, Ph. D.
Coordinator Information Technology Accessibility Disability Resources and
Educational Services at UIUC
Email: jongund@uiuc.edu
Voice: (217) 244-5870
- Representatives were picked by CIO's.
- IU participants include Margaret
Londergan and Tara Bazler



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Accessibility Working Group

- Sakai – An open source suite of learning, portfolio, library, and project tools.
- Indiana University is a dues paying member of the Sakai Foundation via the Sakai Partners Program (SPP). OnCourse is IU's implementation of Sakai.





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Accessibility Working Group

- The Accessibility Working Group (WG) is responsible for ensuring that the Sakai framework and its tools are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- The UITS Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers (ATAC) have participated in the working group since Sakai 2.2 in 2005

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/2ACC/Accessibility+Working+Group>



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Accessibility Working Group

- Traditional role has been to perform Accessibility Reviews on each Sakai release.
- Through our involvement in the working group, the ATAC's are working to bring the accessibility conversation into all stages of the Sakai design and development processes.



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Sakai Accessibility Working Group

- Redesigning accessibility evaluation protocols to fit realities of Web applications and new technologies.
 - Determine accessibility goals for Sakai 3
 - Need to have accessibility issues addressed early and throughout the Sakai 3 design and development cycles.
 - Need to actively support designers and developers.
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UITS Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers' (ATAC's)



Web Accessibility Evaluation Services

- The ATAC offers free Web site accessibility tests and evaluations for the IU Community.
- In-person evaluations provide deeper insight into the challenges of information access faced by people with disabilities.



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UITS Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers' (ATAC's)



Web Accessibility Evaluation Services

- Evaluations include face-to-face consultations, a report of accessibility features and issues, follow-up training, and support.



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UITS Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers' (ATAC's) Web Accessibility Evaluation Services



- You can request evaluations through the ATAC Web site:

<http://iuadapts.indiana.edu/services/web-accessibility/request-help.html>

or call 812-856-4112 for an appointment.



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UITS Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Centers' (ATAC's)



Web Accessibility Evaluation Services

- Our clients include:
 - City of Bloomington Government
 - Office of Creative Services (IU Gateway and IU Bloomington Homepage)
 - IU Digital Library Program (Variations, others)



How to Design Accessible Web Sites

- The best skill to master to be great at creating accessible Web sites is to learn about disabilities and the obstacles those disabilities present to information access.
- There are many technically accessible Web sites that completely fail at being functionally accessible.



How to Design Accessible Web Sites

- The W3C and WebAIM have excellent introductions to accessibility.
 - W3C:
<http://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/accessibility>
 - WebAIM:
<http://www.webaim.org/intro/>
 - ATAC's Accessibility Resources:
<http://iuadapts.indiana.edu/services/web-accessibility/resources.html>



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Questions?

- Feel free to drop in the Adaptive Technology and Accessibility Center, call 856-4112, or email iuadapts@indiana.edu to make an accessibility consultation appointment.

Thank you for your attention!

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